GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4752
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
SHIFTING OF ONGC HEADQUARTERS FROM DEHRADUN
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil exploration work is mainly concentrated in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Assam, Godavari basin, Andaman and Nicobar;

(b) if so, the benefits of keeping the headquarters of ONGC at Dehradun far away from exploration sites entailing avoidable expenditure on TA and DA to Officers;

(c) whether the headquarters of ONGC is proposed to be shifted to some central place; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): At present, exploration by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.(ONGC) is mainly carried out in the States of Gujarat, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Tripura as also in the offshore areas adjoining the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal.

(b): Since 1956, the Headquarters of ONGC have been at Dehradun, which has all major supports required to carry out the administrative functions as well as co-ordination of the operations of the ONGC.Three major Research & Development Institutes of ONGC, namely, Keshava Deva Malviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration (KDMIPE), Institute of Drilling Technology(IDT) and Geodata Processing & Interpretation Centre (GEOPIC) are located at Dehradun.In addition, the Institute of Management Development (IMD) is also based at Dehradun. These help in providing necessary technical and administrative support to facilitate better decision making as well as in activities related to Corporate Governance. Besides, Dehradun is in proximity to New Delhi, where the Registered Office of ONGC as also the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and other concerned organisations are situated.

As regards expenditure on TA & DA of officers of ONGC performing official tours, since the operations of ONGC are spread over the length and breadth of the country and since the tours are undertaken in connection with the coordination of activities being undertaken at the various Work Centres, this expenditure cannot be avoided even if ONGC`s Headquarters is situated at a place other than Dehradun.

(c): There is no proposal for shifting Headquarters of ONGC from Dehradun.

(d): Does not arise in view of the reply to part (c) above.